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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD Washington 25, D.C.

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING:

Working Group - Committee on Broadcasting and

Television (COBAT)

First Meeting held 9:00 A.M.

January 13, 1956, CCB Conference Room

Working Group Members Present:

USIA - Frederick A. Long. Acting Chairman

CTA - C. Lloyd Egner
ICA - Gerald Winfield

State - T. H. E. Nesbitt, Chairman TPIB

Defense - James J. Kelleher (Observer)

OCB - Leslie S. Brady

Ralph Busick, Staff Representative Marjorie Denny, Staff Assistant

In the absence abroad of the Chairman, Mr. Robert E. Button, the USIA alternate chaired the first meeting.

The Staff Representative supplied the background which led up to the formation of the Committee on Broadcasting and Television (COBAT). An informal exploratory discussion was held on current and urgent problems, involving US concern and interest in European television, especially the situation in Helsinki and Vienna. The Committee considered possible approaches to an ultimate U.S. policy respecting global TV, and agreed that many of the ideas expressed around the table should be incorporated into a paper for the Board Assistants. The first order of business will be study of the USIA paper on Television in Europe, prepared at the request of the Board Assistants. As this paper supplying basic background information is more or less a status report on the TV-in-Europe problem, it was agreed it should be broadened into a policy paper including contributions from all the members of COBAT.

It was decided that the Committee should endeavor to meet once a week in view of the present backlog of work falling within its Terms of Reference.

The next meeting will be held Monday, January 23rd, 2:00 P.M. at CCB, 708 Jackson Place, N.W.

Kalph Busick

Staff Representative